



#5/4 42701 M.L

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Harry R. Haury Serial No. 09/679,189 Filed October 3, 2000 For SELF CONFIGURING PEER TO PEER INTER PROCESS MESSAGING SYSTEM Art Unit 2152

January 29, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Substitute the following for Claim 1:

1. (once amended) A network system comprising:

a plurality of resources, some of which being incompatible with others;

a network interconnecting the resources;

an asynchronous arbiter resident in each of the resources for sending messages via the network and for receiving messages via the network wherein each arbiter independently reviews and processes the messages from other arbiters of other resources so that the resources communicate directly with each other without the need for a master controlling program and without the need for other gateway for controlling and processing the messages as the messages are transmitted between resources.

Substitute the following for Claim 14:

14. (once amended) A message system for transmitting messages on a network between resources interconnected by the network, said message system comprising:

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